



Docket No.: 50023-136

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
Hiroshi MATSUUCHI, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 4052
Application No.: 09/825,284	:	Group Art Unit: 2111
Filed: April 04, 2001	:	Examiner: Justin KING

For: DIGITAL DEVICE, DATA INPUT-OUTPUT CONTROL METHOD, AND DATA INPUT-OUTPUT CONTROL SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

09/825,284



CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each reference, listed on the attached PTO-1449, was cited in a corresponding European partial search report and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

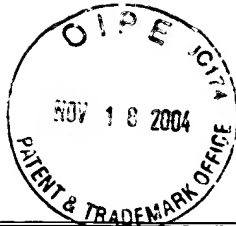
Respectfully submitted,

MODERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. A. Becker".

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SHEET 1 OF 1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION IN AN
APPLICATION**

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
50023-136SERIAL NO.
09/825,284APPLICANT
Hiroshi MATSUUCHI, et al.FILING DATE
April 04, 2001GROUP
2111**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US 6,006,286	12/21/1999	Baker et al.	
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number 4 -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		EP 0 432 316 A1	6/19/1991	N.V. PHILIPS' GLOEILAMPENFABRIEKEN GROENEWOUDSEWEG 1		YES	

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.